

City of Blue Lake
City Council Regular Meeting
Skinner Store – 111 Greenwood Ave., Blue Lake, CA
May 12, 2015
MINUTES

The Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Councilmembers Present: Jean Lynch, John Sawatzky, Michele McCall-Wallace, Stephen Kullmann

Councilmembers Absent: Lana Manzanita

Staff Present: Deputy City Clerk April Sousa, City Manager John Berchtold, City Planner Garry Rees

Motion to Approve the Agenda

Councilmember Kullman *motioned to approve the agenda after moving item 6 to occur after public input and for item 7 to occur after item 8.* Councilmember Sawatzky seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Input

Walter Nystrom from Blue Lake Power notified the council regarding a change in their current purchase agreement and that the plant's last day of operation will be the 20th of May. Blue Lake power is looking for a new purchase agreement to reinstate operation soon.

Appointment to Vacancy on Public Safety Commission

Mayor McCall-Wallace asked the applicant, Daniel Willson, to introduce self and state why he wishes to be on the Public Safety Commission. Council was given an opportunity to ask clarifying questions. Councilmember Kullmann *motioned to appoint Daniel Willson to the open vacancy on the Public Safety Commission, with a term ending January 2017.* Councilmember Sawatzky seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 1051: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Blue Lake Accepting a Drainage Easement, Public Utility Easement and Public Access Easement

Councilmember Kullmann *motioned to adopt Resolution No. 1051 by stated title only.*

Councilmember Sawatzky seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 1052: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Blue Lake Declaring the Council Seat held by Lana Manzanita to be Vacant and Prescribing a Course of Action to Fill the Vacancy

City Manager Berchtold gave an overview and stated the two options for Council to consider: appointment of a councilmember or special election.

Discussion occurred regarding the date of the vacancy. It was decided that the date reflected as the seat being vacant should be April 24, 2015. This would change the date the seat needs to be filled to June 23, 2015. It was noted that June 23, 2015 would also be a regular council meeting.

After discussion, the consensus was that the council should appoint a new councilmember rather than go through a special election.

There was discussion regarding the process of the appointment. It was stated that the vacancy will be posted immediately in three (3) public areas. The notice and application will also be available on the City website and it was asked that a statement from the City be posted on the "nextdoor" social media site. Applicants will be given 30 days to fill out applications. The application for Council/Commission/Committee was discussed. Council asked that the following changes be made: (1) the word "thoroughly" be in bold, (2) the requirement that council members must be a city resident is stated on the form, and (3) stating that applicants may be asked additional questions by the council.

Councilmember Sawatzky *motioned to adopt Resolution No. 1052 with stated date changes.* Councilmember Kullmann seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Request for Proposals (RFP) for Regional Recycling

City Manager Berchtold gave an overview of the recycling history of the City and the options in front of Council, which includes staying with Eel River Resource and Recovery for recycling

needs, or enter into a regional plan agreement with Humboldt Waste Management Authority (HWMA).

Council discussed the MOU. Mayor McCall-Wallace advocated for not signing the MOU at this time. In the MOU there was language that the City could join later. Councilmember Lynch agreed with Mayor McCall-Wallace's suggestion.

The RFP and RFP process was also discussed by Council. Council stated concerns regarding the scoring matrix within the RFP and how this would affect local jobs.

Council opened this item for public input. Chuck Schager from Eel River Resource and Recovery gave input to Council on the RFP and MOU. He encouraged council to read the RFP carefully.

Mayor McCall-Wallace reminded Council that what was being asked is to give input on the draft RFP. Action is required by council for the MOU.

Councilmember Kullmann *motioned to approve the MOU with HWMA and the City of Blue Lake*. There was no second. The motion was not considered.

Council addressed the RFP and directed Councilmember Kullmann, as representative to HWMA from the City of Blue Lake, to take suggestions and comments regarding RFP back to HWMA.

Mayor McCall Wallace *motioned to not accept the MOU, but to ask HWMA to maintain item 9 of the MOU stating: "HWMA member agencies not initially participating in this MOU shall be permitted to enter into this MOU, and thereby participate in the Recyclable Materials Processing Agreement."* Councilmember Lynch seconded. Motion carried with the following votes:

Ayes – Sawatzky, Lynch, McCall-Wallace

Nays – none

Abstain – Kullmann

Barbara Russell, Blue Lake Resident: Proposed Green Diamond Preserve

It was noted that Barbara Russell was present earlier in the meeting but had left prior to the discussion of this item.

Mayor McCall-Wallace mentioned that this was an information only item.

It was suggested that Russell contact the County to do a presentation as well as contact Redwood Regional Economic Development with the idea.

Council gave a positive view of the project.

Report of How Special Event Permits are Currently Processed

City Manager Berchtold gave a review of the agenda item for Council.

City Planner Rees summarized the current process for Special Event Permits, on both private and public property.

Council was given an opportunity to comment and discuss the issue, asking clarifying questions of City Planner Rees.

Mayor McCall-Wallace gave a recap of the issue as it stands.

Council suggested extra research be done with a city that is more comparable to Blue Lake, such as Ferndale.

Council asked for a recommendation on a revised process after the comparison was done.

Council Check in at 9:07 p.m. It was decided that the meeting could be finished close to 9:30 p.m. as originally scheduled.

State Gas Tax Revenues for Fiscal Year 15-16

City Manager Berchtold gave a review of the Gas Tax revenues. It was noted that the revenue from the Gas Tax funds street repairs.

Council discussed the appropriateness of a support letter for SB16 regarding transportation funding being written and sent by Mayor McCall-Wallace.

Concerns were voiced on how the State has used these funds. Councilmembers voiced concerns of showing support when the perception is that funds are not spent correctly.

Councilmember Kullmann *motioned to authorize the Mayor, on behalf of the City Council, to send a support letter to our State Senator and Assemblyman regarding SB16.* Councilmember Sawatzky seconded. Councilmember Lynch *added a friendly amendment to the motion on the table, adding information to the letter regarding transportation/job/consumer cycle.* Councilmember Kullmann accepted the amendment. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Councilmember Kullmann pulled item c: Set Council Work Session with Director of PARSAC – Wednesday, June 24, 2015.

Councilmember Kullmann *motioned to approve Consent Agenda item a: Warrants/Disbursements April 2015, item b: Adopt Minutes from April 28, 2015, and item d: Acceptance of Donation from Patricia Powell.* Councilmember Sawatzky seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Set Council Work Session with Director of PARSAC – Wednesday, June 24, 2015

Councilmember Kullmann asked to discuss the timing of the meeting.

After discussion, there was *consensus to ask Joanne Rennie, director of PARSAC, if 10:00 or 11:00 a.m. would work for this session.*

Reports of Council and Staff

Councilmember Lynch – none

Councilmember Kullmann – none

Mayor McCall-Wallace – mentioned *Pints for Non-Profits* at the Mad River Tap Room on Wednesday, May 20, 2015 would benefit the Blue Lake Fire Department. Also mentioned she learned that the Chamber of Commerce had some updated signs that they wanted to give to the City. She would like to discuss this at a future meeting.

Councilmember Sawatzky – none

City Manager Berchtold – reported on the Old Crows group ribbon cutting event in June, information on the Utility User's Tax, the painting of Prash Hall, and a notice of Abate at the property at 650 Chartin Way. He also mentioned that the neighbors at the foot of B Street may come in with an application for an encroachment permit before the next meeting. Due to a conflict of interest with the City Engineer, Steve Tyler from Plan West will review the permit.

Future Agenda Items

- B Street discussion on May 26, 2015

Correspondence

Deputy City Clerk Sousa mentioned a letter from Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District (HBMWD) regarding a new director. Council asked to have a card available to send to Carol Rische, retiring director, for councilmembers to sign.

Adjourn

Councilmember Sawatzky *motioned to adjourn.* Councilmember Kullmann seconded. The meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

April Sousa
Deputy City Clerk